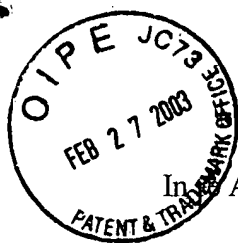


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of: )  
TAKAHIRO MORO et al. )  
Application No.: 09/597,403 ✓ )  
Filed: June 21, 2000 ✓ )  
For: PRINT CONTROL )  
APPARATUS AND METHOD : Examiner: N/Y/A  
Group Art Unit: 2781  
February 26, 2003

**RECEIVED**

MAR 03 2003

**Technology Center 2100**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,499,359  
U.S. Patent No. 5,687,301  
U.S. Patent No. 5,739,841  
U.S. Patent No. 5,745,218

EP 0 741 488

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated January 3, 2003, is enclosed.

In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants

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